

Amend the following claims:

1 --1. (amended) Method for exchanging telecommunication
2 traffic between users in a telecommunications system[(1)],
3 comprising a satellite communication network[(2)], such as
4 the Inmarsat system, built up from several telecommunication
5 satellites[(4)] which are operatively coupled, by way of
6 radio transmission links[(6)], to one or more earth
7 stations[(5)], which earth stations are operatively
8 connected, by way of a service [centre (7)]center, to an
9 earth communication network[(3)] built up from fixed and/or
10 mobile telecommunication networks[(9;10;11;12)],
11 [characterised]characterized in that messages having an
12 address code[(32)] short to such a degree that no complete
13 network address can be included, and received in the service
14 [centre (7)]center from users[(13;14;15)] by way of the
15 satellite communication network[(2)], are stored in
16 electronic mailboxes[(21)], said messages being distributed
17 among the mailboxes on the basis of an address code[(32)]
18 or part thereof, by way of at least one lookup table[(35)]
19 and the address code referring to a reference included in
20 the lookup table.

1 2. (amended) Method according to claim 1,[characterised]
2 characterized in that messages received from a group of
3 users[(13;14;15)] are stored in a common mailbox[
4 (24;25;26)].

1 3. (amended) Method according to claim 2,[characterised]
2 characterized in that messages from users associated with a
3 telecommunication operator are stored in a common mailbox[
4 (27;28)].

1 4. (amended) Method according to claim 3,[characterised]
2 characterized in that, in a common mailbox, messages are
3 stored distributed over separate mailboxes[(21)].

1 5. (amended) Method according to[one or more of the
2 preceding claims] claim 1,[characterised] characterized in
3 that a mailbox is selected on the basis of said address
4 code[(32)] included in a message received and an
5 identification code[(31)] associated with the user in
6 question.

1 6. (amended) Method according to claim 5,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table[(35)] comprises at
3 least a first[(36)] and a second[(37)] address block, the
4 one address block referring to a user-specific mailbox[
5 (21)] and the other address block referring to a mailbox
6 common to a group of users[(24;25;26)], a mailbox in
7 question being selected from the first or second address
8 block on the basis of the address code[(32)] received.

1 7. (amended) Method according to claim 6,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table[(35)] comprises a
3 third address block[(38)] in which references are included
4 relating to a group of most recently transmitted messages.

1 8. (amended) Method according to claim 7,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table[(35)] comprises a
3 fourth address block[(39)] in which references are included
4 relating to services to be rendered to a user, a service in
5 question being selected on the basis of the address code
6 received.

1 9. (amended) Method according to claim 8, [characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table [(35)] comprises
3 [128]consecutively numbered references, the first address
4 block [(36)] referring to the first [32] references having
5 the lowest sequence numbers, the second address block [(37)]
6 referring to the next 32 references, the third address
7 block [(38)] referring to the still following 32 references,
8 and the fourth address block [(39)] referring to the 32
9 references having the highest sequence numbers.

1 10. (amended) Method according to [one or more of the
2 preceding claims] claim 1, [characterised] characterized in
3 that the messages stored in a mailbox may be transmitted to
4 an [authorised]authorized user on demand.

1 11. (amended) Method according to [one or more of the
2 claims 1 to 9 inclusive] claim 1, [characterised]
3 characterized in that the messages stored in a mailbox are
4 transmitted automatically to an [authorised]authorized user,
5 in clusters of messages, if so required.

1 12. (amended) Method according to [one or more of the
2 preceding claims] claim 1, [characterised] characterized by
3 a user's account associated with an electronic mailbox, for
4 crediting thereto the costs involved in receiving, storing
5 and transmitting messages.

1 13. (amended) Device for exchanging, in a
2 telecommunications system [(1)], telecommunication traffic
3 between users [(13;14;15)], which telecommunications system
4 comprises a satellite communication network [(2)], such as
5 the Inmarsat system, built up from several telecommunication

6 satellites[(4)] which are operatively coupled, by way of
7 radio transmission links[(6)], to one or more earth
8 stations[(5)], which earth stations are operatively
9 connected, by way of a service[centre (7)] center, to an
10 earth communication network[(3)] built up from fixed and/or
11 mobile telecommunication networks[(9;10;11;12)],
12 [characterised]characterized by control means[(23)] for
13 storing in electronic mailboxes[(21)] messages, having an
14 address code[(32)] being short to such an extent that no
15 complete network address can be included and received in the
16 service [centre (7)]center from users[(13;14;15)] by way of
17 the satellite communication network[(2)], the control means
18 [(23)]distributing said messages among the mailboxes[(21)]
19 on the basis of an address code[(32)] or part thereof, by
20 way of a lookup table[(35)] and the address code referring
21 to a reference included in the lookup table.

1 14. (amended) Device according to claim 13,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the control means[(23)] are arranged
3 for storing, in a common mailbox[(24;25;26)], messages
4 received from a group of users.

1 15. (amended) Device according to claim 13[or 14],
2 [characterised]characterized in that the control means
3 [(23)]are arranged for selecting a mailbox[(21)] on the
4 basis of said address code[(32)] included in a message
5 received and an identification code[(31)] associated with a
6 user in question, the control means comprising an
7 identification-code-related lookup table[(35)] provided
8 with references to mailboxes for selecting said reference or
9 mailbox, as the case may be, on the basis of said address
10 code and identification code received.

1 16. (amended) Device according to claim 15,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table[(35)] comprises at
3 least a first[(36)] and a second[(37)] address block, the
4 one address block referring to a user-specific mailbox
5 [(21)] and the other address block referring to a mailbox
6 common to a group of users[(24;25;26)], the control means
7 [(23)] being arranged for selecting, from the first or
8 second address block on the basis of an address code[(32)]
9 received, an individual or common mailbox in question for
10 storing a message received therein.

1 17. (amended) Device according to claim 16,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table[(35)] comprises a
3 third address block[(38)], in which references are included
4 which relate to a group of most recently transmitted
5 messages, the control means being arranged for selecting a
6 message on the basis of an address code[(32)] received.

1 18. (amended) Device according to claim 17,[characterised]
2 characterized in that the lookup table[(35)] comprises a
3 fourth address block[(39)], in which references are
4 included which relate to services to be rendered to a user,
5 the control means being arranged for selecting a service in
6 question on the basis of an address code received.

1 19. (amended) Device according to[one or more of the
2 claims 13 to 18 inclusive] claim 13,[characterised]
3 characterized in that the control means[(23)] are arranged
4 for, if so requested, transmitting to an[authorised]
5 authorized user messages stored in a mailbox.

1 20. (amended) Device according to[one or more of the
2 claims 13 to 18 inclusive] claim 13,[characterised]
3 characterized in that the control means[(23)] are arranged
4 for automatically transmitting, to an[authorised]
5 authorized user, messages stored in a mailbox.

1 21. (amended) Device according to claim 19[or 20],
2 [characterised] characterized in that the control means
3 [(23)]are arranged for erasing stored messages after the
4 transmission thereof from the mailbox.

1 22. (amended) Device according to[one or more of the
2 claims 13 to 21 inclusive] claim 13,[characterised]
3 characterized in that the mailboxes[(21)] and the control
4 means[(23)] are mounted in the service[centre (7)]center.

1 23. (amended) Device according to[one or more of the
2 claims 13 to 22 inclusive] claim 13,[characterised]
3 characterized in that the control means[(23)] are arranged
4 for storing, by way of a transmission link, messages
received in remotely located mailboxes.

1 24. (amended) Device according to[one or more of the
2 claims 13 to 23 inclusive] claim 13,[characterised]
3 characterized in that the control means[(23)] are arranged
4 for tariffing services rendered to a user.

1 25. (amended) Telecommunication unit, comprising user
2 interface means and transmission means[(34)] for exchanging
3 telecommunication traffic between users[(13;14;15)] in a
4 telecommunications system[(1)], comprising a satellite
5 communication network[(2)], such as the Inmarsat system,

6 built up from several telecommunication satellites[(4)]
7 which are operatively coupled, by way of radio transmission
8 links[(6)], to one or more earth stations[(5)], which
9 earth stations are operatively connected, by way of a
10 service[centre (7)] center, to an earth communication
11 network [(3)] built up from fixed and/or mobile
12 telecommunication networks[(9;10;11;12)], a message
13 transmitted by the transmission means having an address
14 code[(32)] being short to such an extent that no complete
15 network address can be included, and the messages received
16 in the service[centre (7)] center from users[(13;14;15)]
17 by way of the satellite communication network[(2)] being
18 stored in electronic mailboxes[(21)], the transmission
19 means being arranged for distributing said messages among
20 the mailboxes on the basis of an address code or part
21 thereof by way of a lookup table [(35)] and the address code
22 referring to a reference included in the lookup table.

26. (amended) Telecommunication unit according to claim 25,
[characterised]characterized in that the transmission means
[(34)] are arranged for transmitting an address code
selected from a first[(36)] or second[(37)] address block,
comprising address codes which refer to a user-specific
electronic mailbox[(21)] or a common electronic mailbox
[(24;25;26)] for storing therein a message transmitted by
the transmission means.

27. (amended) Telecommunication unit according to claim 26,
[characterised]characterized in that the transmission means
[(34)] are arranged for transmitting an address code
selected from a third address block[(38)], comprising
references relating to a group of most recently transmitted